



# MONROE THIS WEEK

Oct. 6, 2017 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272 Volume 3/Edition 39  
Phone - 360-794-7400



## GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

*Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov). Thank you!*

*Yours in Service,*

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



## MAYOR HAPPENINGS

### 2018 Preliminary Budget

I am pleased to present the 2018 preliminary budget for the City of Monroe. My proposed budget recommends using existing revenues **without increasing property taxes**. The 2018 preliminary budget is built around making the City **safer, stronger, smarter**, and more **strategic**. The 2018 budget supports adding an additional police officer, creates an economic advisory board, continues lobbying for SR-522 capacity improvements, focuses on constructing 191<sup>st</sup> to alleviate congestion on Chain Lake Road and synthetic turf fields at Lake Tye. The council will review the preliminary budget on October 10. An ordinance to set the property tax levy is scheduled for October 17. The budget will be presented to the city council for approval on November 21 and December 5. I invite you to attend any of these public meetings to learn more about how the city plans to allocate our tax payer dollars. Thank you to all the staff for your hard work in creating this document. For more information and to view the 2018 preliminary budget, click [here](#).

### Economic Development Advisory Board

The City of Monroe is accepting applications from business owners to serve on the City's newly formed Economic Development Advisory Board. The Board is expected to meet from approximately November 2017 through June 2018. Applications are available on the city's [website](#) and at City Hall located at 806 West Main Street. The deadline to apply is Friday, October 20, 2017.

#### Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

[gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)

#### Councilmembers

Jeff Rasmussen, Mayor Pro Tem

Kirk Scarboro

Patsy Cudaback

Kevin Hanford

Ed Davis

Jim Kamp

Jason Gamble

[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

#### EVENT HAPPENINGS

10/07	Veterans Benefits & Services, Monroe Library, 1PM-4PM
10/07	Farm to Table Farmer's Market, Lake Tye, 10AM-4PM
10/10	<del>City Council Leg. Affairs Committee Meeting, City Hall, PAC, 6PM</del> <b>CANCELLED</b> City Council Regular Business Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM
10/13	Oktoberfest BINGO, East County Senior Center, 6-9PM

#### Appointment Openings

Civil Service Commissioner

Ethics Boardmember (3)

Salary Commissioner

[www.monroewa.gov/vacancies](http://www.monroewa.gov/vacancies)

#### Job Openings

Lateral Police Officer

[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

**City of Monroe**  
**Year-to-Date Comparisons**

Sales Tax Revenues

'16 to 09/30/16: \$3,304,016  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$3,819,710  
**UP \$515,694 or 15.60%**

Real Estate Excise Tax

'16 to 09/30/16: \$650,438  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$1,207,408  
**UP \$556,970 or 85.62%**

Lodging Tax Revenues

'16 to 09/30/16: \$56,852  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$45,506  
**Down \$870 or -1.52%**

Business License Fees

'16 to 09/30/16: \$35,174  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$37,742  
**UP \$2,568 or 7.30%**

Building Permit Revenues

'16 to 09/30/16: \$496,778  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$536,829  
**UP \$40,051 or 8.06%**

Planning Fee Revenues

'16 to 09/30/16: \$92,900  
'17 to 09/30/17: \$29,021  
**DOWN \$63,879 or -68.76%**

New House Permits

'16 to 09/30/16: 93  
'17 to 09/30/17: 119  
**UP 26 units or 27.96%**

Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'16 to 09/30/16: 4  
'17 to 09/30/17: 12  
**UP 8 units or 200.0%**

Building Division Inspections

'16 to 09/30/16: 260  
'17 to 09/30/17: 245  
**DOWN 15 or -5.77%**

(Board continued) The city is looking for local business owners and managers with experience or expertise in retail, commercial, professional, recreation/tourism, lodging, commercial real estate, and homebased businesses throughout the city.

The purpose of the Economic Development Advisory Board is to review and prioritize the list of recommended actions included in the city's Economic Development Plan. The Board will identify short term, mid-term, and long-term priorities. The goal is to have a list of prioritized actions and funding recommendations for the City Council to consider as part of the Mayor's Recommended 2019 Budget.

I will review applications and make recommendations for City Council confirmation on November 14, 2017.

For more information contact City Administrator Deborah Knight at 360-863-4500 or [dknight@monroewa.gov](mailto:dknight@monroewa.gov).

## **COUNCIL HAPPENINGS**

The Tuesday, October 10, 2017, Monroe City Council Regular Business Meeting agenda includes a Discussion for WATV Code Regulations. It also includes the 2018 Preliminary Budget presentation and discussion. For more information click [here](#).

## **CITY HAPPENINGS**

### **Development Code Renovation**

The City of Monroe is in the process of renovating its development code. This renovation would replace the existing development code, which is currently located in Titles 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 of the Monroe Municipal Code (MMC) with one unified, user-friendly set of rules. The purpose of the development code renovation is to simplify its content, streamline the City's permitting process, and increase flexibility.

*How does this affect me?*

You may never notice most of the potential changes to the development code. However, other modifications could impact Monroe in visible ways. The following topics may be of interest to many residents:

- Changes to residential density, which is the number of lots and/or housing units allowed for each acre;
- Ways to protect and preserve the existing tree canopy;
- Design standards to provide aesthetic consistency for building exteriors throughout various parts of the city;
- Deciding which types of land uses are permitted to locate where;
- Landscaping standards for new and existing developments;
- Subdivision and Planned Residential Development (PRD) requirements; and
- Standards for walls and fences.

*How can I help?*

The City wants YOU to get involved! There will be many opportunities to participate by speaking and offering input, including:

(Code continued below)

- Attending Planning Commission meetings regularly. These are scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 806 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272;
- Attending the Open House on October 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. This will also be in the city's Council Chambers. A Planning Commission meeting will be held immediately after the open house and the public will be given an opportunity to speak; and
- Asking to be put on the mailing list to receive updates. To request to be on the mailing list, please email Shana Restall, Senior Planner, at [srestall@monroewa.gov](mailto:srestall@monroewa.gov).

For more information, click [here](#).

### **Fire Prevention Week**

Fire Prevention week is fast approaching. Fire District 7 is hosting two Open Houses to promote fire and life safety! We start the week with an Open House at Station 71 (8010 180th St SE, Snohomish) on Sunday, October 8th from 12:00-4:00 and end the week with an Open House at Station 31 (163 Village Court, Monroe) on Saturday, October 14th from 10:00–2:00. These events will have car extrication demonstrations, live fire extinguisher training, firefighter challenge courses for the kids, and more! Bring the whole family for a fun interactive event!